SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

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NO. 190
MAR.

BATMAN®

12¢

WHAT A WAR! The PENGUIN and his WEAPON-UMBRELLA ARMY AGAINST BATMAN and ROBIN!

WHENEVER THAT POMPOUS *MASTER OF FOWL PLAY*-- THE *PENGUIN*-- WADDLES OUT ON A CRIME-CAPER, IT'S AN ODDS-ON BET THAT *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* WILL NAB HIM BEFORE HE CAN FEATHER HIS NEST WITH ILL-GOTTEN GAINS.

TO LESSEN THE ODDS AGAINST HIM THIS TIME, THE *BUMBERSHOOT BANDIT* IS OPERATING ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT "*THERE IS NO FUTURE FOR A CROOK TODAY*-- UNLESS HE USES CRIME TECHNIQUES OF *TOMORROW!*" WHICH IS PRECISELY WHAT CONFOUNDS THE *CAPED CRUSADERS* WHEN...

BATMAN

With ROBIN The Boy Wonder

The PENGUIN TAKES A FLYER-- INTO THE FUTURE!

HOW DROLL! *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* ARE UNABLE TO HIT MY FELONIOUS FLOCK-- WHILE *THEY* ARE ABLE TO POMMEL THE *DYNAMIC DUO* AT WILL!

KANE

SWAK!

WHAPP!

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THREE DAYS AGO A HEAT WAVE ROLLED INTO GOTHAM CITY... AND REFUSED TO MOVE OUT...

LET'S SLEEP OUT HERE TONIGHT! IT'S LIKE AN OVEN INSIDE THE APARTMENT!

THE BEACHES ARE JAMMED EVEN AT TEN O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING...

I'M JUST GOING TO LET THE TIDE MOVE IN AND COVER ME FROM FOOT TO CHIN!

BUT IN A CERTAIN UNDERWORLD HANGOUT, FOUR GANGSTERS "COOL IT" IN STYLE...

AIR-CONDITIONED UNIFORMS!

PENGUIN, THIS IS THE GREATEST IDEA YOU'VE EVER HAD!

PFAH! GOOD, YES--BUT NOT GREAT! THE TIME IS COMING WHEN SUCH UNIFORMS WILL BE COMMONPLACE! TONIGHT--WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS WILTING FROM THE HEAT--YOU'LL BE BREEZING THROUGH A CRIME-CAPER!

YES, HERE HE IS AGAIN--THE *BIRDMAN BANDIT*, THE *MAN OF 1000 UMBRELLAS*--THE *PENGUIN* HIMSELF, WADDLING ON TO MORE WICKEDNESS...

YES INDEED,--A COMFORTABLE CROOK IS AN EFFECTIVE CROOK! MOREOVER--AN ENERGETIC CROOK IS AN ENDURING CROOK, WELL ABLE TO STAND UP TO MEDDLING BUSYBODIES LIKE *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*! COME ALONG TO MY NEXT SURPRISE...

IN THE MAGNIFICENT DINING ROOM WHICH FORMS PART OF HIS EYRIE, THE BOLD BUCCANEER OF BIRDS AND BUMBERSHOOTS IS HOST FOR THE NIGHT...

IN THE "MOD" PACE OF THIS MADCAP WORLD WE LIVE IN TODAY--YOU MEN BURN UP SO MUCH ENERGY BATTLING THE LAW AND THE *DYNAMIC DUO*--YOU MUST KEEP COMPLETELY FIT!

YOUR BODIES ARE MACHINES--AND LIKE ALL MACHINES THEY NEED HIGH-GRADE FUEL TO FUNCTION MOST EFFECTIVELY! ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE DEVISED A FUTURISTIC MEAL WHICH IS INSTANT-ENERGY ITSELF! AND SO... *LET DINNER BE SERVED!*

TINKLE! TINKLE!

FELLOW BIRD-BRAINS--MEET *CHEF PENGUIN!*

B-BUT, B-BOSS--YOU DIDN'T TELL US YOU HAD A TWIN BROTHER!

BOSH! WHAT YOU ARE SEEING IS MERELY A ***ROBOT PENGUIN!*** I'VE PROGRAMMED HIM TO BE THE WORLD'S GREATEST CHEF! AND HERE IS HIS CULINARY MASTERPIECE!

HUH? A BUNCH O' PILLS?

WHERE'S THE FOOD?

EGAD, YOU INDIGENT IGNORAMUSES! THESE PILLS ***ARE*** THE MEAL--ONE FOR EACH OF US! WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO DINE UPON IS THE FEAST OF THE FUTURE!

EACH OF THESE PILLS CONTAINS ALL THE CONCENTRATED FOOD ELEMENTS OF A ***CHATEAUBRIAND STEAK--CAESAR'S SALAD--POTATO AND VEGETABLES--AND BAKED ALASKA!***

COME, COME--EAT HEARTY, MY FINE—FEATHERED FINKS! ENJOY THE FUTURE TODAY! WE HAVE A JOB TO DO THIS NIGHT!

I'D STILL RATHER DIG INTO A STEAK! BUT WHAT'S ALL THIS TALK ABOUT THE **FUTURE** YOU'RE SPOUTING?

I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK! YOU SEE BEFORE YOU A GÉNIUS WHO HAS *COME* TO GRIPS WITH THE FUTURE--AND OUT-THOUGHT IT! BY JOVE! I--THE ***PENGUIN***, MASTER OF FOWL PLAY, HAVE AT LAST COME INTO MY OWN!

TOO LONG HAVE WE PERMITTED THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF OUR WORLD TO THWART US WITH THEIR SCIENTIFIC CRIME—DETECTION DEVICES! TODAY'S OUTDATED CROOK DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE! I HAVE DONE NOTHING IN ANSWER TO THIS CHALLENGE--UNTIL NOW!

I HAVE NOT SHIRKED MY DUTY TO MY BROTHERS IN BANDITRY! THE *PENGUIN* HAS TURNED INTO THE *DOVE* OF THE *ARK* LEADING ALL OTHERS TO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE! YOUR AIR-CONDITIONED UNIFORMS AND INSTANT-ENERGY PILLS ARE JUST A SAMPLE OF HOW I HAVE UPDATED MY CRIME TECHNIQUES!

CHOMP!

CHOMP!

THIS VERY NIGHT--IF LUCK IS WITH US--WE SHALL AGAIN TANGLE WITH *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*! BUT *THEY* SHALL NOT CONFRONT BUMBLING BRAGGARTS AND HAPLESS HOODS! ON THE CONTRARY, THEY WILL FIND US INVENTIVE AND INGENIOUS!

WE SHALL BE INVIGORATED--INCOMPARABLE--INVULNERABLE! THE *DYNAMIC DUO* SHALL GO DOWN BEFORE US LIKE PINS TO A BOWLING BALL IN THE HANDS OF AN EXPERT!

YA HEAR THAT, *BALD EAGLE*? THAT'S *US* TH' BOSS IS TALKIN' ABOUT!

THROUGH THE SWELTERING HEAT OF THE CITY STREETS COMES THE *BATMOBILE* THIS SAME NIGHT...

;*Whewww*;! IT'S SO HOT I JUST SAW A DOG CHASING A CAT AND THEY WERE BOTH WALKING!

SPEAKING OF HEAT, *ROBIN*--THE *SONAR-OSCILLATOR* SEEMS TO BE AFFECTED BY IT TOO!

WOW! FROM THE PATTERN OF THE SQUIGGLES, I'D SAY SOME CROOK IS WORKING A *NUCLEAR-POWERED* DRILL! BUT WHAT CROOK COULD WHIP UP A GIMMICK LIKE *THAT*?

LET'S GO FIND OUT, *ROBIN*!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

INTO THE OFFICES OF THE INTERNATIONAL GOLD CORPORATION RACE THE MASKED MAN-HUNTER AND BOY WONDER...

THERE'S OUR ANSWER, BATMAN-- THAT WISE OLD BIRD THE PENGUIN!

AH! MY FOOTLOOSE AND FANCY-FREE FOES! HALT! YOU'VE GONE FAR ENOUGH!

NEXT INSTANT...

HUH-- WHAT'S THIS? MY FEET FEEL SO HEAVY--I CAN'T EVEN MOVE THEM!

-YUK- -YUK- YOU'VE BEEN CAUGHT FLAT-FOOTED BY MY HEAVY GRAVITY BEAM!

A GRAVITY BEAM? BUT NOBODY'S EVER INVENTED SUCH A-- OOFF!

HOW DROLL! YOU CAN HARDLY MOVE-- YET YOU DENY THE TRUTH OF WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU! HIT HIM AGAIN, SWIFTY!

WOKK!

I'M SO HEAVY-FOOTED HE KEEPS BEATING ME TO THE PUNCH!

THUMP!

ROBIN, TOO, FINDS HIMSELF DESPERATELY HANDICAPPED BY THE FUTURISTIC DEVICE OF THE BUMBERSHOOT BANDIT...

IF GRAVITY DIDN'T HOLD HIM, ROBIN WOULD BE FLYIN' CLEAR ACROSS THE ROOM!

SWOK!

OOF--CAN'T GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO LAY A HAND ON HIM!

HA, HA! THAT OL' GRAVITY BEAM'S GOT YA, ROBIN! YUH'RE SLOWER'N MOLASSES!

I WONDER WHY THE PENGUIN'S GANG IS NOT AFFECTED BY THE GRAVITY BEAM-- THE WAY WE ARE! COULD IT BE BECAUSE--

AS WE RAN IN--WE POUNDED OVER SOMETHING THAT GRATED UNDER OUR BOOTS! IF THOSE WERE IRON FILLINGS--

ROBIN--QUICKLY! GET OUT OF YOUR BOOTS! THE PENGUIN MUST HAVE CONCEALED A POWERFUL ELECTRIC MAGNET UNDER THE FLOOR--

JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING! THE MAGNETISM'S GRIPPING THE IRON FILINGS STUCK TO OUR BOOT SOLES AND HOLDING US TIGHT--JUST AS A REAL GRAVITY BEAM MIGHT DO!

WITHOUT OUR BOOTS--WE'RE OUR FIGHTING SELVES AGAIN!

THWIK!

NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO DISH OUT THE SOKS AND POWS!

EGAD! THOSE TWO HAVE THE CALCULATING MINDS OF A COUPLE OF COMPUTERS!

SSSWOOSH

THE WAY TO GET RID OF A WEED IS TO PULL IT OUT BY ITS ROOTS!

LOCK!

YOU MIGHT SAY WE'RE GOING TO "ROOT" FOR YOU, PENGUIN!

THUMP!!

PFAH! MUST I BE SUBJECTED TO SUCH PUTRID PUNS? MUST I ENDURE THESE EAR-GRATING PLAY-ON-WORDS? THE GOLD I MEAN TO TAKE FROM THIS PLACE IS HARDLY WORTH IT!

YOU SAID IT, PENGUIN!

WOULD YOU SETTLE FOR A PUNCH INSTEAD OF A PUN?

AWK!

HOW'S THAT FOR A SAFE DEPOSIT, PENGUIN?

EGAD... ET TU, BATMAN?

ZWOPP!

GIVE UP, YOU FAT FOWL?

PFAH! NOT WHILE MY MEN REMAIN UNDEFEATED! THEY HAD A FUTURISTIC REPAST BEFORE COMING HERE--AND THEIR ENERGIZED BODIES HAVE ALREADY RECOVERED! LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

AH, THOSE SOUNDS ARE MUSIC TO MY EARS! HIT 'EM AGAIN-- HARDER, HARDER!

WHUPPP!

WHAP!

I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL B AND R BEGIN TO FIGHT BACK AGAIN! ANOTHER FUTURE-SURPRISE AWAITS THEM!

ZOKK!

WHAKK!

WHAT'S THIS? WHAT AVIAN ARTIFICE HAS THE PERILOUS *PENGUIN* PREPARED TO PUT THE *DYNAMIC DUO* AT A DEADLY DISADVANTAGE? STORY CONTINUES ON THE 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING!

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION FOR *YOU* FROM DC:

I resolve to use my head when crossing streets and not walk blindly into danger!

THAT'S A GOOD RESOLUTION TO FOLLOW... YOU CAN BELIEVE ME, *DUMB BUNNY*... EVEN IF THEY *DO* SAY I ONLY USE *MY* HEAD TO HANG MY FACE ON! AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, USE YOUR HEAD TO REMEMBER TO GET THE *FIRST ISSUE* OF OUR NEW MAGAZINE... *THE INFERIOR FIVE!*

DROPPING IN ON YOU JAN. 24th

WATCH FOR MORE RESOLUTIONS IN OTHER **DC** COMICS!

TAKE COVER, FANATICAL FANS! HERE COME THE DELIRIOUS CRIME-FIGHTERS IN THEIR OWN MAG, BATTLING-THE MOST SINISTER FORCES ON EARTH!
WOULD YOU BELIEVE-- THE CAMPFIRE GIRLS?
12¢
The INFERIOR five
FOLLOW THAT CAR!
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE

Dear Editor:

I just don't see how you keep coming up with better stories each time a *Batman* comes out. Ever since "Death Knocks Three Times," *Batman* has been getting so good I just don't know how to describe my feelings.

"The Joker's Original Robberies" in the November issue was just the right type of a story which makes *Batman* the hero he is. The *Joker* gets better every time we see him. Not to mention Bob Kane's artwork which has also been markedly improved over the past few issues.

"Commissioner Gordon's Death-Threat" was also a very interesting mystery. *Robin*'s characterization is being handled very well. The way *Robin* talks and acts makes him seem just like the teenager he is meant to be.

In closing I would like to say that *Batman* is now the kind of magazine I hoped it would be for a long time; good art, plenty of action, and wonderful stories.

—*Dave Truesdale, Norton, Ill.*

(From this "*Joker* gets better every time we see him" appraisal, let us bravely move on to another letter in a *Joke*-cular vein.—*Editor*)

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

When I learned of the umpteenth return of the *Joker* in "The Joker's Original Robberies" in *Batman* 186 from the *Direct Currents* ad currently alternating between *DC* mags, a feeling of unmatched anxiousness for the issue to appear was held in check. Now that I've read it, I am writing you to express nothing but sheer, total disappointment.

Maybe I've been spoiled, but I know from previous experience that both *Batman* and his madcap arch-enemy deserve far better treatment than this. The conflict between the *Caped Crusader* and the *Criminal Comedian* (I realize now why you never used that latter nickname) has spanned 26 years and 186 issues of *Batman*. I . . . who have been lucky enough to read through the first *Joker* story in the first issue of *Batman*'s adventures, a thriller that has yet to be topped . . . feel there is something more than a simple cop vs. simple crook battle between these two; they are personal enemies, eternally after some sort of triumph over one another. No other pair of enemies . . . except maybe for *Superman* and *Luthor* . . . has carried on such a frenzied and exciting war of wits. And, uniquely, theirs is not such a bitter conflict . . . whenever I watch the *Joker* trying to outwit his grey and black-clad enemy, I get the feeling that he's doing it all for . . . here it comes . . . *laughs!*

So how come I was disappointed with his "Original Crimes"? I suppose mainly it was that new character introduced as a *Robin*-like protege to the *Joker* . . . *Gaggy*. How appropriate, because not only was he a poor addition and a relatively un-unusual one, he didn't fit in at all with my personal mental image of the *Joker*. *Joker* is a lunatic, sure, but he's also something of a genius in his own warped way. Never before, in his dozens compounded upon dozens of appearances has he, to my oh-too-limited knowledge, needed somebody else to bring inspiration for another clownish criminal coup. The way I figure it, he's too intelligent and imaginative himself to be forced to rely on slapstick comedy for plans for crimes. Besides, anyone with a face like that must have a huge ego even to walk the streets, let alone tempt fate and commit crimes . . . so I just can't see him giving another credit for his felonious endeavors.

A good note, though. I dug the way the sound effects were done. I've forgotten the name of your letterer, but he deserves a raise in pay.

—*Guy H. Lillian III, Walnut Creek, Calif.*

(Gaspar Saladino is the letterer's name—but your laudatory letter will have to serve as his pay-off.—*Editor*)

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

The *Joker* is back, and I must say that I'm pleasantly surprised at what a good story "The Joker's Original Robberies" turned out to be. I must be fair, though, in that it did not in any way come close to the excellence of "The Joker's Comedy Capers" that appeared in *Detective* 341 (July '65). To me that was the best *Joker* yarn ever, and I was very confident that it wouldn't be topped. Wan'a know somethin'? It wasn't.

That is the past, however, and the present *Batman* 186 carried on with that grand old tradition that has been delighting readers for over two decades. The *Crime Clown* had a good, yes, a darn good angle to his felonious misdeeds. A somewhat unique touch was introduced in the form of Gagsworth A. Gagsworthy, Dwarf Extraordinary. This is all that really made the lead-off story enjoyable.

"Commissioner Gordon's Death-Threat" had an extremely weak plot. I saw through the impersonation after the first glimpse of panel three on page two. I'm no *Sherlock Holmes*, but if I can see through the plot that early, the only alternative is that the plot itself is weak.

Well, there you have it, Mr. Editor, and you can take it for what it's worth. I'm not really disappointed and not really pleased as punch, either.

—*Frank Klein, Webster Groves, Mo.*

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

"Commissioner Gordon's Death-Threat"—ah, here was a real treat! A story with suspense, action, and a lot of mystery is worth its weight in gold any time, but when Gordon is involved—! The Commissioner is one of those people who is basically presented as one-dimensional, because nobody takes the time or has the interest to see him outside of "the station". It is seldom indeed that anyone bothers to wonder whether he actually has a life other than official. So, when somebody finally dreams up a story which presents even one remark sufficient to illuminate his character, I say, "Hallelujah!"

The remark, which I am going to prize for a long time, was made on page 10, panel 2, and I hope everybody has fun looking it up!

—*Irene Vartanoff, Bethesda, Md.*

(Irene tempted *us* into looking up that prize-winning remark—so let us not deprive you of the pleasure of doing likewise!—*Editor*)

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Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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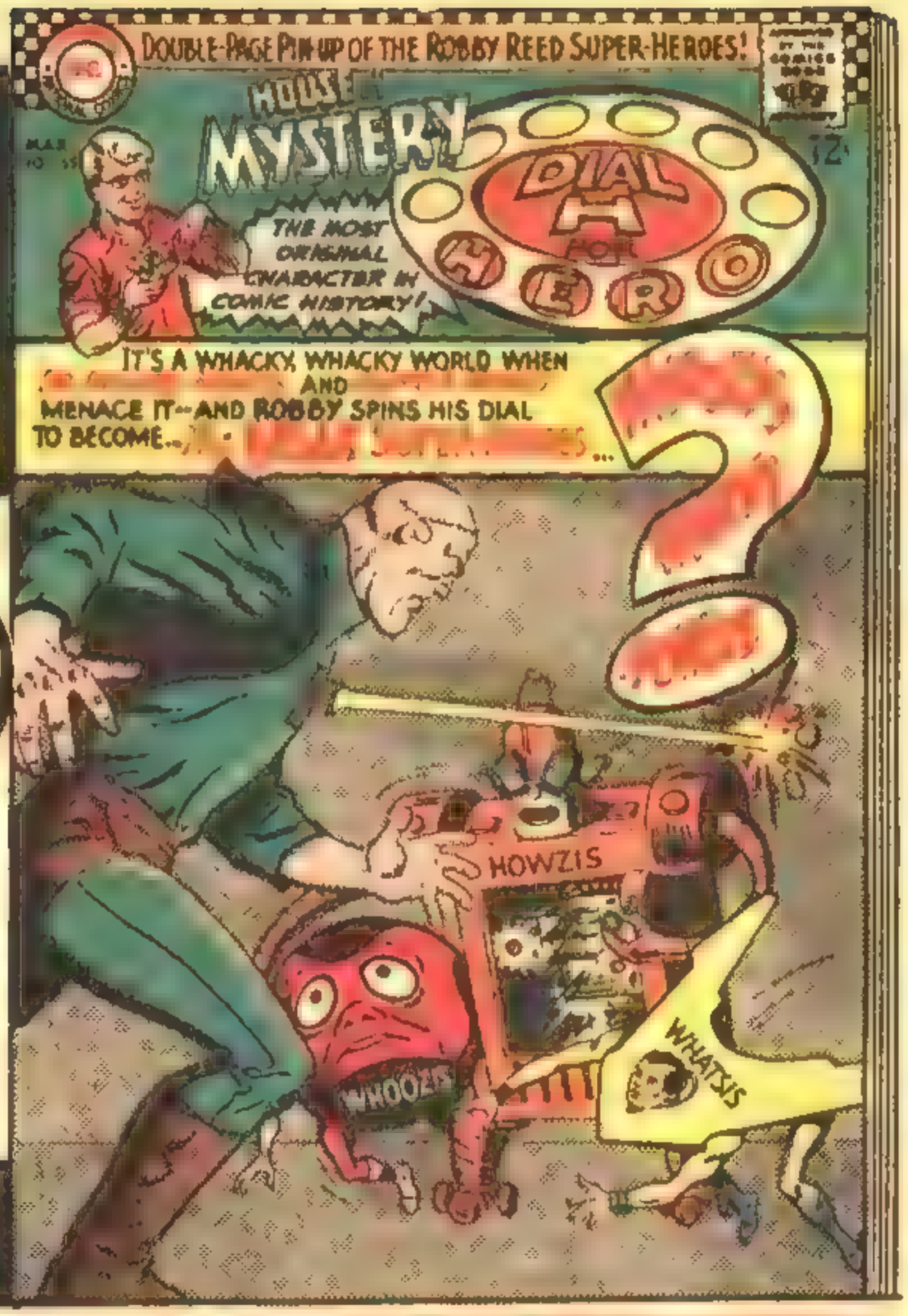

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The PENGUIN TAKES A FLYER-- INTO THE FUTURE!

PART 2

SWEPT OFF THEIR FEET BY THE UNEXPECTED ONSLAUGHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN RECOVER SWIFTLY-- SEND FLYING FISTS AT THEIR FOES...

HERE I GO AGAIN--WITH A SECOND HELPING OF PUNCH PUDDING!

THOSE CROOKS MUST BE SO STUNNED AT OUR OWN RAPID RECOVERY, THEY'RE NOT EVEN MAKING A MOVE TO STOP US!

WHY SHOULD THEY? THEY KNOW YOU CAN'T LAY A HAND ON THEM!

M-MISSED HIM! WHA--?

MY FIST SWERVED OFF-COURSE!

HOW COULD I MISS SUCH AN EASY TARGET? I'LL TRY IT AGAIN--

HAW! HAW! YOU COULDN'T HIT THE SIDE OF A BARN, BATMAN!

AND ONCE AGAIN HIS ARM SWINGS WILDLY...

WATCH CLOSELY, BATMAN--I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!

YOU'RE FIGHTING OUTA YOUR LEAGUE, BATMAN! ALL YOU CAN DO IS STRIKE OUT--WHILE WE MAKE THE HITS!

GRUMMP!

ONLY ONE ANSWER! SOME STRANGE FORCE IS DEFLECTING MY FIST AWAY FROM ITS TARGET!

ANOTHER OF MY FUTURISTIC GIMMICKS, BATMAN! I CALL IT MY FIST-FENDER-OFF! I BETTER EXPLAIN IT TO YOU WHILE YOU'RE STILL CONSCIOUS!

JUST AS FUTURE SPACESHIPS WILL HAVE METEOR BUMPERS--TO WARD OFF METEORS THAT FLY THROUGH SPACE--SO I HAVE EQUIPPED MY MEN WITH DEVICES TO FEND OFF YOUR FLYING FISTS!

MY FELONIOUS FLOCK IS THUS PROTECTED EVEN FROM THE BOMBASTIC BLOWS OF SUCH CRIME-KILLJOYS AS YOU TWO!

HEY, FELLA--YOU KNOW WHEN A SPANKING IS LIKE A HAT? WHEN IT'S FELT... OOOPS! I MISSED AGAIN!

SHADES OF JOE MILLER'S JOKE BOOK! MUST I EVER-LASTINGLY LISTEN TO SUCH CLAP-TRAP? HURRY IT UP! KNOCK THEM BOTH OUT SO I WON'T HAVE TO ENDURE THOSE AWFUL JOKES ANY LONGER!

BAPPP!

WHILE BATMAN'S FISTS KEEP MISSING, HIS WITS KEEP CLICKING...

FOR ALL PENGUIN'S BOASTS, I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S COME UP WITH A "FIST-FENDER-OFF"! IT'S GOT TO BE A TRICK--TO MAKE IT APPEAR THAT WAY!

SOCK!

ROBIN, TOO, IS ALERT TO WHAT GOES ON AROUND HIM...

MAYBE I'M TELE-GRAPHING MY PUNCHES! THAT WOULD MEAN THE MAN I'M FIGHTING KNOWS WHERE I'M GOING TO HIT! BUT SUPPOSE I FAKE A PUNCH?. I'LL FEINT A RIGHT AND STRIKE FAST WITH MY LEFT...

ZOK!

THE DYNAMIC DUO ACTS AS ONE...

THE CROOK THINKS I'M GOING TO HIT HIM WITH A RIGHT FIST BUT...

...I'LL SOCK HIM WITH A LIGHTNING LEFT JAB!

KWUPP!

THWAKK

AS HE FOLLOWS THROUGH, BATMAN'S CHEEK COMES CLOSE TO THE BANDIT'S UNIFORM AND...

SO THAT'S IT! THEIR UNIFORMS ARE EQUIPPED TO RELEASE AIR UNDER HIGH PRESSURE AT CERTAIN POINTS! WHEN THE CROOK SEES WHERE MY BLOW IS AIMED, HE SENDS OUT A CONCENTRATED BLAST OF AIR TO HIT MY FIST AND BRUSH IT ASIDE!

KRAK!

NOW THAT WE'VE SOLVED THE SECRET OF THEIR "INVULNERABILITY"...

SOK!

...WE MISS WITH ONE-- AND CONNECT WITH THE OTHER!

THWAK!!

AS THE LAST OF HIS CROOKED FLOCK IS GROUNDED, THE *BUMBER-SHOOT BUCCANEER* WADDLES OFF...

BOPP!

WHUKK!!

ODZOOKS! CAN **NOTHING** STOP THOSE FLYING FISTED DO-GOODERS?

WE'RE TOO LATE! THERE HE GOES ON HIS JET-UMBRELLA!

YES, ***BOY WONDER!*** IT'S TIME I FLEW THIS CONFOUNDED "COUP"... WITH ALL THE GOLD I CAN CARRY IN MY UMBRELLA CANOPY!

AS HE RACES ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY, BITTER REALIZATION COMES TO THE ***PENGUIN***...

MY BIRD-BRAIN GANG WAS INCAPABLE OF THINKING AS FAST AS ***BATMAN*** AND ***ROBIN!*** I'LL HAVE TO DEVISE SOME NEW MEANS OF HANDLING THOSE TWO!

SHORTLY, IN HIS SUBTERRANEAN NEST...

AH--YES! I HAVE IT! JUST AS I CREATED A **ROBOT PENGUIN**, I SHALL MAKE ROBOT UMBRELLAS--**ROBOTRELLAS**--TO STEAL AND DO BATTLE FOR ME!

BY CONTROLLING THEIR EVERY MOVE WITH MY OWN BRAIN, I WILL BE IN COMPLETE COMMAND AT ALL TIMES! NOW--TO WORK, TO WORK!

BACK IN **GOTHAM CITY**, AFTER THEY HAVE TAKEN THEIR PRISONERS TO JAIL, THE **DYNAMIC DUO** HEADS HOMEWARD..

PENGUIN SURE TOOK A FLYER--INTO THE FUTURE! I WONDER. WHAT STUNTS HE'LL WHIP UP FOR US NEXT TIME WE MEET?

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT TOMORROW WILL BRING, **ROBIN!** WE MUST BE ON GUARD AT ALL TIMES!

SOME NIGHTS LATER, SILENT SHAPES JET SMOOTHLY THROUGH THE AIR...

MUFFLERS PREVENT MY **ROBBER-ROBOTRELLAS** FROM MAKING ANY NOISE!

JEWELRY

JEWELERS

TINY **LASER BEAMS** MELT THE GLASS WINDOWS WITHOUT SETTING OFF THE BURGLAR ALARMS, PERMITTING MY **BUMBER-SHOOT BANDITS** TO ENTER!

FROM HIS UNDERGROUND NEST, THE **PENGUIN** GLOATS AS...

AFTER USING CONCEALED MAGNETS IN THEIR HANDLES TO OPEN SAFE DOORS, I REMOTE-CONTROL MY **PLUNDERING PARASOLS** TO CHOOSE MY LOOT FOR ME!

BY SCANNING EACH JEWEL WITH A JEWELER'S EYE-PIECE, THEY WILL SELECT ONLY THE FINEST STONES FOR MY ENJOYMENT!

BUT AS THOSE BANDIT BUMBERSHOOTS GIVE OFF ELECTRONIC SIGNALS WHILE THEY FUNCTION...

BATMAN! WE'RE IN TUNE WITH ELECTRONIC IMPULSES! THEY SOUND LIKE SOUR NOTES TO ME!

THEY'RE COMING FROM THAT JEWELRY STORE!

JEWELRY

BATMAN-- LOOK! JET-UMBRELLAS--

--WHICH SPELL OUT PENGUIN! BUT WHERE'S THE EMPEROR BIRD?

NO SIGN OF OUR MAN OF A THOU-SAND UMBRELLAS! HE MUST BE ROBOT-CONTROLLING THEM FROM HIS HIDE-OUT!

FRAMED IN THEIR BAT-NOCULARS THEY SEE A CARAVAN OF WEALTH AS THE JEWELS GLOW WITH INCANDESCENT COLORS...

INTO THE BATMOBILE, ROBIN! THOSE UMBRELLAS WILL LEAD US TO OUR PREY!

FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES THEY KEEP THE ROBOTRELLAS IN SIGHT UNTIL...

THEY'RE GETTING OUT OF RANGE-- MOVING FASTER AND FASTER!

LOOKS LIKE THE PENGUIN'S GETTING AWAY WITH HIS SKYWAY ROBBERY!

JUST FOR **THIS** TIME, **ROBIN!** WHEN HE STRIKES AGAIN, WE'LL HAVE THE SCIENTIFIC SOLUTION TO HIS ROBBERIES-BY-UMBRELLAS--**BAT-RELLAS!**

WE'LL BEAT HIM AT HIS OWN GAME, eh?

SOON **COWLED CRUSADER** AND **BOY WONDER** ARE HARD AT WORK IN THE **BATCAVE...**

WHERE CAN **ALFRED** BE? I SENT HIM FOR THOSE SPECIAL TRANSISTORS WE NEED FOR THIS JOB!

THE CONCEALED **BAT-DOOR** OPENS--AND A GUST OF WIND USHERS ALFRED THE BUTLER AND A SPRAY OF RAIN INTO THE **BATCAVE...**

HERE I AM, SIR! I DIDN'T WANT TO AROUSE AUNT HARRIET'S SUSPICIONS, SO I CAME IN BY THE HILLSIDE ENTRANCE!

WHAT A TERRIBLE NIGHT IT IS! A GOOD THING I HAD MY TRUSTED UMBRELLA ALONG!

SAY--THAT BUMBERSHOOT OF YOURS GIVES ME AN IDEA, ALFRED! YOU MAY COME IN USEFUL IN OUR NEXT TRY FOR THE **PENGUIN!**

FAR FROM THE **BATCAVE**, ELATION SURGES THROUGH THE POUTER-PIGEON CHEST OF THE **BIRDMAN BANDIT** AS HE HOLDS UP A HANDFUL OF HIS LOOT..

EGAD! I'M A GENIUS'S GENIUS! MY **ROBOTRELLAS** ARE THE PERFECT THIEVES!

HEIGH-HO! ORDINARILY I WOULD NEVER REPEAT THE SAME METHOD OF COMMITTING A CRIME--BUT THIS METHOD IS SO SPECTACULAR, SO SAFE, THAT I SHALL MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN THIS CASE--FOR THE **DYNAMIC DUO'S** BENEFIT!

I CAN'T RESIST THE SATISFACTION OF SEEING THEM FAIL AGAIN!

LIGHT ME UP, ROBOT-PENGUIN!

I'LL GIVE THEM A WEEK TO THINK UP SOME COUNTER-MOVE AGAINST ME!

IF YOU WILL PERMIT ME TO SAY SO, SIR--YOU'RE THE MOST SUPERLATIVE SCALAWAG OF ALL TIME!

TUSH, TUSH! YOU'LL SPOIL ME! THOUGH WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE ENOUGH!

TO CONTINUE--YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY TOPS, *PENGUIN*! THE ACME OF ABILITY, THE PRINCE OF PLUNDERERS, THE KING OF KNAVES!

EXCELLENTLY PHRASED-- EVEN IF I DID PUT YOUR SPEAKING SPOOL INSIDE YOU!

PRECISELY, ONE WEEK LATER...

THERE THEY ARE! THIS TIME AS BANK-BANDITS!

RELEASE *BAT-RELLAS*, *ROBIN*!

LIKE INTERCEPTOR MISSILES, THE *BAT-RELLAS* HURTLE SKYWARD...

ZWIP!

ZWOOSH!

FROM THEIR SKY-HIGH VANTAGE POINT, THE *BAT-RELLAS* SEND OUT ELECTRONIC BEEPS TO THE *BATMOBILE* BELOW...

CLICK CLICK CLICK

CLICKETY

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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MANY MILES OUTSIDE **GOTHAM CITY** THE **ROBOTRELLAS** DROP DOWN ONTO AN EMPTY FIELD...

THE ROBOT UMBRELLAS ARE GETTING RID OF THEIR LOOT!

WHERE HIS LOOT IS, CAN THE **PENGUIN** BE FAR BEHIND?

IN HIS UNDERGROUND HIDEAWAY, THE **BUMBERSHOOT BUCCANEER** GLOATS WITH EVIL SATISFACTION...

NO, **BATMAN!** I AM CLOSE BY, READY TO TURN MY FIGHTING FORCES INTO-- **DYNAMIC DUO DEATH-DEALERS!**

AND THEN-- THEIR CANOPIES WHIRLING MADLY, APPEAR THE FIGHTING FORCES OF THE **MAN OF 1000 UMBRELLAS!...**

Whoa! UMBRELLA ATTACK HEADED OUR WAY!

BRACE YOURSELF, **ROBIN!** THIS MAY BE THE TOUGHEST FIGHT OF OUR LIVES!

YEOW! TWO OF THEM TEAMING UP AGAINST ME!

USING THIS MACE-UMBRELLA-- TO PULL ME FREE OF THE NECK-GRABBING ONE!

MEANWHILE, THE **MASKED MAN-HUNTER** HIMSELF IS HARD BESET..

OOOF! THAT BATTERING RAM ALMOST KNOCKED ME COLD! AND--HERE COMES A **SWORD-BRELLA!**

THAT KICK-TRICK SAVED ME THIS TIME-- BUT IT MAY NOT DO SO AGAIN! **ROBIN!** WE NEED SHIELDS! YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ONE!

SHIELDS?! BUT SURELY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** COULDN'T HAVE BEEN FORESIGHTED ENOUGH TO EQUIP THEMSELVES WITH SUCH PROTECTIVE DEVICES!

Story continues on 2nd page following!

CAP'S HOBBY HINTS

HOW TO DO IT BETTER

KIDS! MAIL IN YOUR **HOBBY HINTS** TO: CAP'S, NATIONAL COMICS. 575 LEXINGTON AVE. NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

IF PUBLISHED, YOU WILL RECEIVE **$5** AND THE ORIGINAL ART.

MISTER, CAN I HAVE THE **SCRAPS** OF **ASPHALT ROOFING?**

SURE.

THANKS TO- STEVE HOLLAND IOWA CITY, IOWA.

THIS WILL LOOK NEAT ON MY **TRAIN TABLE!**

HENRY BOLTINOFF - 6487

I'LL CUT IT UP INTO REAL **SMALL PIECES.**

NOW, I'LL SCATTER IT ALONG THE **TRACKS**, AND IT'LL LOOK LIKE A **GRAVEL BED!**

CUT OUT FOR YOUR **SCRAPBOOK**

LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE--EXTRA

Dear Editor:

Batman is and always will be an extremely fictional and unreal character. (Though he is possibly the most realistic of all super-heroes.) For this reason I think that the foes he battles should be in the same manner, as costumed crooks. But, unfortunately, a good *Batman* story can only be produced with two foe formulas, the enemy who taunts *Batman*, and the foe that haunts *Batman*. *Batman* has always been a hero without a super-power to aid him—therefore, villains with supernatural powers, or fantastic devices as the second *Clay Face*, the *Blockbuster*, *Mr. Zero*, the *Weather Wizard*, etc.

On the other hand, *Batman* has always been the fear of the underworld, so it is appropriate that you have a villain who can put fear into *Batman*. The greatest of these is a villain who has sadly been out of action for too many years —and due for a comeback. He is, of course, *Two Face*, who, in my opinion, could be passed as the Victor of all Villains. He had a fascinating aura of horror and pity around him. His face, alone, increased the mystery and fearful imagination in *Batman*.

Now, as for other eerie demons, the *Joker*, who is the most famous *Batman*, as well as my second favorite foe, comes in a not too close second. The way he used to be (killing people and leaving them with a haunting grin) was a bit too gruesome, but in his latest form he is excellent while taunting *Batman*, and leaving haunting memories. The *Joker* entertains exceptionally well with not only his ghastly jokes, but with his gruesome face as well. Other classic villains who fit this category are the *Catwoman* and *Scarecrow*, who should be brought back now and then. Some of the new haunters include *Death Man*, *Poison Ivy*, and *Hangman*, though only *Poison Ivy* should be brought back. Also, the original *Clay Face* should be returned.

In the taunting department, you have a number of good villains. The King of the Category is the *Penguin*. He is such a pleasant kind of villain in his manners, and so enjoyably entertaining when mocking *Batman*, that he, too, should be brought back very often. Next, is the *Riddler*. While I do not consider him a classic villain (he's only been the star villain in four *Batman* tales), he does have a freshness around him, and with his riddles he is consistently enjoyable, and should be brought back from time to time. But equally entertaining, is your new villain, the *Cluemaster*, whom I hope will visit your magazine a great deal more than he has been. The *Mad Hatter* and *Mirror Man* (with real mirror inventions of today, not his fantastic ones) should also be brought back, now and then, because they're always entertaining.

Say I, don't crowd your books with old villains but you have so many good ones you should bring them back, at least once in two years. Also, I'd like new villains who can be used more than once—but make sure all your villains are costumed foes!

—*David B. Colby, Hewlett Bay Park, New York.*

(Any rebuttals, readers? This is *your* department, with a minimum of editorial interference—so let yourselves go-go!—*Editor*)

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

From way back in the 1940's up to recently, *Batman* has always been a figure of mystery; a creature of darkness and suspense. When a *Batman* story came out one could be certain that the bulk of the plot had been boiled down into a more condensed version, giving the reader a chance to fill in the omitted parts with concepts of his own. There was little to aid the *Cowled Crusader* in his battle against crime except his own wits and developed skills. Yes, he was truly "one of the people", a down-to-earth character that existed most vividly in the imagination, if not in the flesh.

What is *Batman* now? He is little more than a joke, a bumbling caped clown. True, his adventures (or should I say antics) always allow for the ultimate victory over his adversaries, but all too often his win just isn't "cricket." His methods are becoming more and more fictitious; a bunch of hopped-up malarkey thrown together in a mess of stupid *Bat-gimmicks* galore. But even I wouldn't mind this nonsense if it were restricted to television alone. But when this lighter interpretation of *Batman* begins to infiltrate your comic strip, his whole image is thrown out of whack. Haven't you guys got the faith in your own interpretation of *Batman* and *Robin* to keep their style the same despite what is being done with them outside your strip?

Please don't shove this letter off as "just another complaint". Give some thought to the significance of these drastic changes in the make-up of our favorite foe-of-felons.

—*Marcy Slyh, Lansdale, Pa.*

("Faith" in our *Batman* interpretation we have—"thought" we've given it—so you wanna argue with sales figures of a million-plus per issue?—*Editor*)

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

This is the first letter I have ever written to a comic mailroom. Usually I don't feel the need because I usually think every DC comic excellent. I'm not one of these picky types who buys a comic to look for a mistake; I buy them primarily for enjoyment.

But I feel I have to write into *Batman* out of sheer alarm. I want to ask you one question. What is happening to *Batman* and *Robin*? They used to be so close. And *Robin*!!! If I were *Batman* I would give him a smack he never would forget! I always used to think of *Robin* as the only boy assistant who ever really worked out—he used to be so level-headed and clever. But I find this cleverness has gone too far. *Robin* has turned into a smart aleck wise kid who needs to be taught a good lesson. A good example is a recent *Detective—Batman* is holding up a mirror and *Robin* makes the wise comment, "Put the mirror down, Big Daddy—you're not going to win any beauty contests!" And what does *Batman* do? Nothing! *Robin* better change!

As for *Batman*, he used to be my favorite hero. He is fast becoming my most hated super-hero. Why! Simply because he is splashed on the cover of every comic he has the least bit to do with—simply because he will sell comics. Please, Editor, don't commercialize a good hero like *Batman* simply because he will sell comics. Please print my letter as I wish to make my views known and hear someone else's opinion.

—*Paul Simon, Morristown, N.J.*

(*Batman* a tool of commercialization—that's *bad*?—*Editor*)

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Communications slanted for this department should be addressed to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE—EXTRA, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

the PENGUIN TAKES A FLYER--INTO THE FUTURE!

PART 3

FROM THE BATMOBILE WHEELS, BATMAN AND ROBIN YANK OFF METAL HUB-CAPS THAT SERVE AS SUITABLE SHIELDS!...

THIS'LL BLUNT THIS BUZZSAW-RELLA!

WE'LL HAVE TO FIGHT OUR WAY PAST HIS WEAPON-UMBRELLAS TO GET AT THE PENGUIN!

ONE WAY TO STOP THOSE THINGS IS BY TURNING THEM AGAINST EACH OTHER!

WITH THIS FALLEN TREE-BRANCH AS A CLUB--AND HUBCAP AS A SHIELD--I'M MAKING LIKE AN ANCIENT GLADIATOR!

SO INTENT ARE THEY ON THEIR DESPERATE STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL THAT THEY FAIL TO SEE TWO *NET-BRELLAS* SWOOPING DOWN ON THEM ...

I MANEUVERED THOSE THINGS INTO POSITION--AND DUCKED JUST IN TIME!

BY KNOCKING 'EM OFF TWO AT A TIME, THE *PENGUIN* WILL SOON RUN OUT OF UMBRELLAS!

THE FLYING *NET-BRELLAS* DROP DOWN--CABLES LENGTHEN TO GATHER IN THEIR PREY...

YIII! THAT WAS A *NET* LOSS--FOR US!

THAT'S IT, *ROBIN*! NO MATTER WHAT THE DANGER--DON'T LOSE YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR!

TWISTED INSIDE THE NETTING OF METALLIC CABLES, THE TRAPPED DUO IS FLOWN TO THE *PENGUIN'S* NEST...

OH, HAPPY HOUR! OH, DELIGHTFUL DAY! YOU ARE MY PRISONERS AT LAST, *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*! NOW YOU SHALL PAY THE PENALTY LONG OVERDUE YOU!

THE GAME'S NOT OVER TILL THE LAST OUT, *PENGUIN*--AND THAT'S WHAT WE'LL DO NEXT--GET *OUT*!

GRIPPING THE NET STRANDS, THE TERRIFIC TWOSOME SWINGS THEM TOGETHER SO THAT THE UMBRELLAS ARE DRIVEN FORWARD INTO THE *WICKED WADDLER*!..

THIS WILL LOOSEN THE NETS JUST ENOUGH FOR *ROBIN* AND MYSELF TO FREE OURSELVES OF THIS GRIP!

SURRENDER, PENGUIN!

WE'VE GOT A JAIL-CAGE ALL READY FOR YOU!

TUT-TUT! DID YOU FORGET I AM MASTER OF THE FUTURE? OBSERVE--!

HUH? THE PENGUIN-- FLYING!?

NOT EVEN A REAL PENGUIN-BIRD CAN DO THAT!

A DEMONSTRATION OF MY MIND-OVER-MATTER CONTROL OF OBJECTS SHOULD CONVINCE YOU OF THE FUTILITY OF RESISTING ME!

HURLING FURNITURE AT US?!

ACTING WITH INSTANTANEOUS TEAMWORK--THE DYNAMIC DUO GRIPS CHAIR-ARMS AND TABLE-LEGS AND...

AS CHAIR-MAN I VOTE THAT WE TABLE THIS DISCUSSION UNTIL PENGUIN TAKES THE FLOOR, BATMAN!

AS THE THROWN CHAIR AND TABLE THUD INTO THE CEILING-HIGH PENGUIN...

HOLY DECEPTION! THAT'S A ROBOT PENGUIN!

BARROOM!

I TOLD YOU I HAD MASTERED GRAVITY! I AM NO LONGER EARTH-BOUND! NOW YOU SURRENDER TO ME BEFORE I USE MY FUTURISTIC ABILITIES TO DESTROY YOU BOTH!

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED AGAIN, ROBIN!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

COUNTDOWN ON EXCELLENCE

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO CLEAN UP THE GARAGE, JERRY, BUT YOU DIDN'T DO A VERY GOOD JOB.

AW, DAD, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? IT'S NOT VERY IMPORTANT.

HMM...WITH THAT KIND OF ATTITUDE, YOU'LL GET INTO SLOPPY WORK HABITS. IF EVERYONE FELT THAT WAY ABOUT HIS JOB, WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN?

"SUPPOSE A PLUMBER DIDN'T DO *HIS* WORK RIGHT..."

OH, DEAR! AND THE PLUMBER WAS JUST HERE AND SAID EVERYTHING WAS FINE!

"OR A SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR..."

I WANTED THE *BANK*, NOT THE BAKERY!

"OR A GARAGE MECHANIC..."

I JUST HAD MY TIRE CHANGED! THE MECHANIC DIDN'T TIGHTEN THE WHEEL PROPERLY--I COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!

SCREECH!

CLUNK!

"OR A MAN WHO WORKS ON A SPACE CAPSULE..."

COUNTDOWN...THREE...TWO...ONE...*ZERO!* HUH? NO BLAST-OFF! SOMEBODY GOOFED!

I GET IT, DAD...EVERY JOB, WHETHER IT'S BIG OR SMALL, IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO DO RIGHT! THAT'S A GOOD *NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!*

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

AS WE KNEW, **PENGUIN** HAD NO GRAVITY CONTROL -- NOR MIND-OVER-MATTER ABILITY! HE WORKED THOSE TRICKS BY CUNNINGLY PLANTED MAGNETS!

THE **REAL PENGUIN** WAS OUT OF OUR REACH ALL THE TIME! I WONDER WHERE HE IS?

BUT SEARCH AS THEY WILL, THE **CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS** CANNOT LOCATE THEIR QUARRY! FINALLY, WHEN THEY GLUMLY RETURN TO THE **BATMOBILE**...

ALFRED! **YOU** CAUGHT THE **PENGUIN!**

YOUR TRICK OF USING ALFRED PAID OFF, **BAT-MAN!**

INDEED IT DID, **MASTER ROBIN!** WHEN YOU LEFT ME HIDDIN IN THE **BAT-MOBILE** TRUNK AND I SAW YOU NETTED AND CARRIED OFF--I ALMOST GAVE CHASE--BUT YOU HAD TOLD ME TO WATCH THE LOOT--SO IN DUE TIME WHEN I SAW THE GROUND OPENING AND THE LOOT DROPPED DOWN INTO IT I LEAPED AFTER IT!

"I RAINED DOWN ON THE **PENGUIN** ALONG WITH HIS STOLEN MONEY..."

EGAD! WHAT'S THIS? I'VE CAUGHT A BUTLER ALONG WITH MY BANK NOTES...

"BEFORE THE FOWL BANDIT COULD MOVE AGAINST ME, I BASHED HIM WITH MY TRUSTY UMBRELLA..."

THAT WILL LAY YOU OUT WHILE I TAKE YOU AND YOUR ILL-GOTTEN GAINS TO THE **BATMOBILE!**

EVIDENTLY HE HAD TWO UNDER-GROUND HIDE-OUTS! ONE FROM WHICH HE CONTROLED HIS UMBRELLAS AND HIS ROBOT OTHER SELF, THE OTHER WHERE HE HAD US BROUGHT!

I IMAGINE HE EQUIPPED HIS ROBOTS WITH TELEVISION CAMERAS TO SEE AND HEAR WHAT WAS GOING ON--SO HE COULD UTILIZE THEM MOST EFFECTIVELY! WELL, **PENGUIN'S** FLYER HAS LED HIM BACK TO PRISON!

SOMEWHAT LATER, IN THE BUMBERSHOOT BANDIT'S CELL...
YOU WON'T HANDLE AN UMBRELLA FOR A LONG WHILE IN THERE, PENGUIN!
ARE YOU THE PENGUIN? IT'S A GREAT HONOR TO BE YOUR CELL MATE!

INDEED, MY GOOD MAN? YES, I RATHER IMAGINE IT IS! WHAT IS YOUR NAME!
BROLLY--
BROLLY!? WHY--THAT'S THE ENGLISH SLANG WORD FOR AN UMBRELLA!
$27066

SO BATMAN AND ROBIN THINK I CAN'T COME IN CONTACT WITH AN "UMBRELLA" IN HERE, DO THEY? WELL-- THIS BROLLY CHARACTER IS AN "UMBRELLA" THAT WILL PROVE OF INESTIMABLE AID IN ENABLING ME TO ESCAPE FROM THIS NEFARIOUS NEST OF PENAL SERVITUDE!
THE END

DIRECT CURRENTS

Greetings again! Time to peek into the Old Electrician's fuse box and see what sizzles for the near future. Ah! We have a good selection of electrifying adventures coming up. Here's the line-up . . .

Extra Added Attraction in the **March HOUSE OF MYSTERY, No. 166,** on sale Jan. 5—a double page Pin-up of ROBBY REED'S SUPER-HEROES! It's a real collector's item—better get your copy early!

When GREEN LANTERN mysteriously vanishes, a new deputy—THE FLASH—is assigned by the GUARDIANS to handle the case—"ONE OF OUR GREEN LANTERNS IS MISSING!" In the **March FLASH, No. 168, on sale Jan. 19.**

The mad maids of KAMP KAREFREE become teacher's pests at the LITTLE BO-PEEP SCHOOL FOR GIRLS—and who are they throwing the book at? Their teacher, **JERRY LEWIS! April issue, No. 99,** on sale Jan. 17.

Another startling adventure of IMMORTAL MAN, the hero who lived and died 100 times, headlines the **March STRANGE ADVENTURES, No. 198.** Plus a 2-in-1 sci-fi thriller: "DANGER: EARTH IS DOOMED!" On sale Jan. 31.

B'WANA BEAST returns! Yes, DC's newest hero, the mighty JUNGLE MASTER, makes his second smash appearance in the **April SHOWCASE, No. 67,** bringing fresh thrills and danger from darkest Africa! On sale Jan. 24.

Ever think how the world would suffer without wheels? So up pops a villain called the DUKE OF WHEELINGTON to lay claim to the invention, and it's up to pliable **PLASTIC MAN** to stop him! **April, No. 3,** on sale Jan. 24.

Look out! **THE INFERIOR FIVE** are back—this time in their own mag! See them become men of letters as they team with C.O.U.S.I.N. F.R.E.D. to fight H.U.R.R.I.-C.A.N.E.! **No. 1 (March)** is on sale Jan. 24.

Would you believe BATMAN would compete with top hoods for the title of KING OF CRIME? Even SUPERMAN finds it hard to accept—but it happens in the **March WORLD'S FINEST, No. 165,** on sale Jan. 26!

The JLA Emergency Signal sounded—and half the members failed to respond! Why? For the amazing answer, read "MISSING IN ACTION—5 JUSTICE LEAGUERS" in the **March JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, No. 52,** on sale Jan. 26!

Is ol' **METAMORPHO** confused! It isn't every day UFO's are spotted in the sky! And this time one of them lands, the ALIENS emerge, and your ELEMENT MAN REALLY has his hands full! **April Issue, No. 11,** on sale Jan. 26.

At the conclusion of CAPT. HUNTER's adventures in VIET NAM, a brand-new feature starts—a totally different kind of war story—HUNTER'S HELLCATS! Coming in the **April OUR FIGHTING FORCES, No. 106,** on sale Jan. 26.